CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

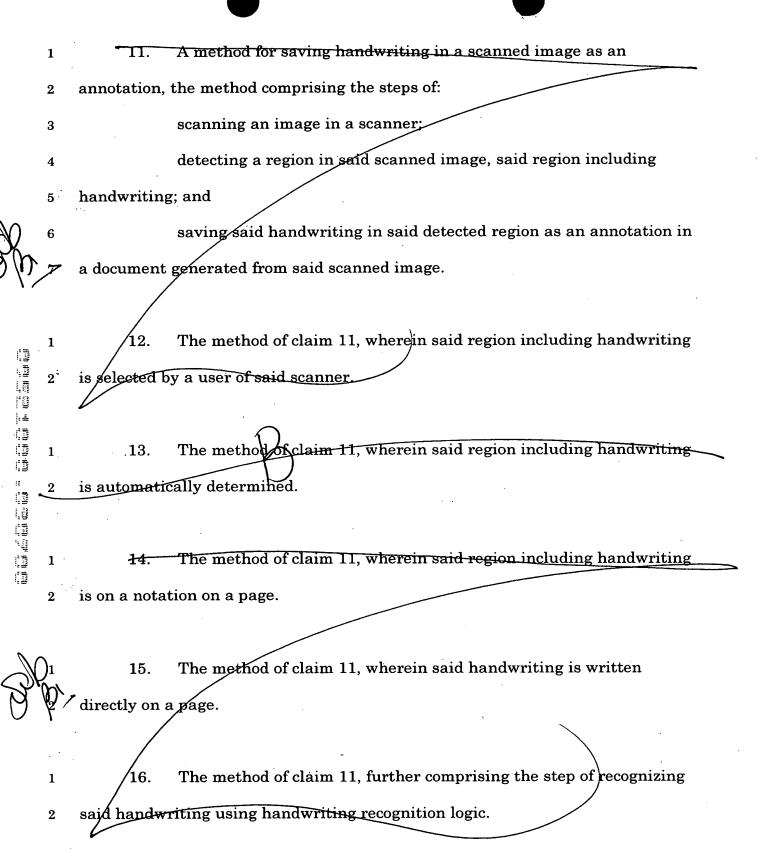1.   A system for saving handwriting in a scanned image as an annotation, comprising:

a scanner;

a document analysis and processing software component in communication with said scanner; and

automatic annotation logic in communication with said document analysis and processing software component, said automatic annotation logic configured to detect a region in a scanned image, said region including handwriting, and save said handwriting as an annotation in a document generated from said scanned image.

2.   The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is selected by a user of said scanner.

3.   The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is automatically determined by said document analysis and processing software component.

4.   The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is an notation on a page.

1 ~~5.   The system of claim 1, wherein said handwriting is written directly~~

2 on a page.

1   6.   The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting recognition

2 logic configured to recognize said handwriting.

1   7.   The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation

2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from a

3 preview image created from said scanned image.

1   8.   The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation

2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from said

3 document generated from said scanned image.

1   9.   The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation

2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from a

3 preview image created from said scanned image.

1   10.   The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation

2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from said

3 document generated from said scanned image.

1   11.   A method for saving handwriting in a scanned image as an

2   annotation, the method comprising the steps of:

3   scanning an image in a scanner;

4   detecting a region in said scanned image, said region including

5   handwriting; and

6   saving said handwriting in said detected region as an annotation in

7   a document generated from said scanned image.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting

2   is selected by a user of said scanner.

1   13.   The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting

2   is automatically determined.

1   14.   The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting

2   is on a notation on a page.

1   15.   The method of claim 11, wherein said handwriting is written

2   directly on a page.

1   16.   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of recognizing

2   said handwriting using handwriting recognition logic.

1 17. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of removing the

2 appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from said scanned

3 image.

1 18. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of removing the

2 appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from said scanned

3 image.

1 19. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of removing the

2 appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said scanned

3 image.

1 20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of removing the

2 appearance of said notation from said document generated from said scanned

3 image.

1 21. A computer readable medium having a program for saving

2 handwriting in a scanned image as an annotation, the program including logic

3 for performing the steps of:

4   scanning an image in a scanner;

5   detecting a region in said scanned image, said region

6 including handwriting; and

7   saving said handwriting in said detected region as an

8 annotation in a document generated from said scanned image.

1   22. ~~The program of claim 21, wherein said region including~~

2   ~~handwriting is selected by a user of said scanner.~~

1   23.   The program of claim 21, ~~wherein said region including~~

2   ~~handwriting is automatically determined.~~

1   ~~24.~~   The program of claim 21, wherein said region including

2   handwriting is on a notation on a page.

1   25.   The program of claim 21, wherein said handwriting is written

2   directly on a page.

1   26.   The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to

2   perform the step of recognizing said handwriting using handwriting recognition

3   logic.

1   27.   The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to

2   remove the appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from

3   said scanned image.

1   28.   The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to

2   remove the appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from

3   said scanned image.

1   29.   The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to

2 remove the appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said

3 scanned image.

1   30.   The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to

2 remove the appearance of said notation from said document generated from said

3 scanned image.